



National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers

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Press Release
For Immediate Release
March 29, 2017

2017 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH THEME ANNOUNCED!

Washington, D.C., March 29, 2017 — The National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers (NCHEPM) announced the 2017 Hispanic Heritage Month theme: **“Shaping the Bright Future of America”**. The theme invites us to reflect on Hispanic American’s vitality and meaningful legacy in our Nation’s cultural framework.

The announcement was made during the Council’s March 29, 2017 meeting at the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection Agency. NCHEPM members, associates, and partners from various Federal agencies, national organizations, and affinity groups, including the general public, selected the theme through a voting process, which started in January 2017 with more than 20 theme submissions.

Mr. Armando Irizarry from the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, DC submitted the winning theme, stating, “This theme embodies the ideal that Hispanics shape the bright future of America through our contributions to all aspects of America’s daily life and national endeavors. Whether it be defending our nation or exploring the universe, conducting scientific research or providing services, in the law or in the arts, in community leadership, finance, sports, or in any other activity, Hispanics enrich the fabric of America to make it brighter, more just, and stronger!”.

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America.

The Hispanic Heritage observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

The NCHEPM is an inter-agency and membership-based organization consisting of an executive board, members, associates, and partners from multiple Federal agencies and other organizations from across the United States, advocating for the improvement of Hispanic participation in the Federal Government.

For more information about the Council and/or to become a member, please email nationalcouncilhepm@gmail.com. Membership is free!

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